

EDITORIALS

THE PASSING OF A BELOVED PHYSICIAN

The death on the ninth of March of Dr. William E. Musgrave at his hospitable "Riverwood" home in the Santa Cruz mountains, removes a strong personality from the medical world, and brings our appreciation of a truly great man closer to us. The loss is not confined to the community in which he lived, nor even to the state of California, but will be felt throughout the nation, and will extend across the Pacific to the Philippine Islands where he labored for many years. Socially, he was known as a man of broad culture, of rare kindliness and charm, an original thinker himself, as well as a generous interpreter of the ideas of other men. His large vision, his wonderful grasp of detail, his wide experience in institutional and organization work, his intense loyalty to the profession of medicine, made him an outstanding figure in American medical journalism. An ardent lover of the beauties of nature, animal life, the songs of birds, the flowers, the trees, the mountains and the winding streams all appealed to him as if a part of his own life and being. To him the ideals of his profession were sacred. He appreciated both the joy of life and the duty of life. The outstanding thought in his mind was for ways and means to make living sweeter and easier, to lift mankind in general to a higher and happier state.

In his philanthropic endeavors he was fortunate in having for associate his beloved wife, who interested herself intensely in his work and cooperated in every effort where she might prove helpful. Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to Mrs. Musgrave in her supreme loss. May the memory of a devoted husband and of the happy years spent with him, and the knowledge that he had the love and esteem of many friends and admiring colleagues help to comfort and sustain her. To his funeral came intimate friends from far and near. He was laid to rest at "Riverwood" on a mound overlooking the beautiful waters of the San Lorenzo River, a spot he loved dearly.

Doctor Musgrave's father was one of the family of the same name of Edenhall, England. His mother's father was the Thomas recorded as Daniel Boone's compatriot. Her mother, who was a Hayes, was a close blood relative of President Hayes. He was born on the old Thomas homestead at Farmington, Tennessee, September 12, 1869, and lived in the vicinity during his early years. He attended public school there and, after graduation from the normal school, spent three years at the Haynes-McLean College, Lewisburg, Tennessee. His Doctor of Medicine degree was awarded by the George Washington University in 1901. His senior year was 1899, but on account of his absence in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, during the Spanish-American War, the degree was not conferred upon him until the year 1901.

For some years before his graduation in medicine he had been working in Washington, D. C., in

the laboratories of his preceptors, Surgeon-General Sternberg and Walter Reed. He was executive on the hospital ship "Missouri" during her conversion from a freighter to a hospital ship, and thereafter until the war was practically over.

He then went to the Philippines where he served as pathologist at the great First Reserve Hospital, and later with the Army Pathological Laboratory until civil government was established. He was "loaned" to the new civil government and helped to establish the first units of the government laboratories, which later became the Bureau of Science. When the medical school was established as the first unit of the University of the Philippines he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Chief of Clinics in the Philippine General Hospital. Later he became Dean and Professor of Medicine in the College and Director of Hospitals; and organized the subsidiary schools of Pharmacy, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, the Graduate School of Tropical Medicine and Public Health. He also converted the large School of Nursing into a University School and created graduate departments in that school. He was one of the founders and for one term the president of the Manila Medical Society and the Philippine Islands Medical Association, and was delegate from that association to the American Medical Association in 1905, and again in 1911. He was one of the founders and first secretaries of the Far East Association of Tropical Medicine. As chairman of the Government Committee that worked for three years on the problem of excessive infant mortality of the tropics he published an exhaustive report of eleven hundred pages.

In 1917, after more than eighteen years of tropical experience in research, administrative and clinical medicine, he returned to San Francisco in uncertain health. During the World War he held the rank of Captain in the Medical Corps. In San Francisco he reorganized the Children's Hospital and continued as its director for five years. In the meantime he was appointed director of the University of California Hospital, which he reorganized. He succeeded in taking over Hahnemann Hospital from the old Homeopathic Medical School and converted it into an industrial medicine hospital. St. Luke's Hospital was also drawn into the teaching group by a strong affiliation.

Meanwhile his health failing to sustain him in such strenuous work, he resigned and accepted the lighter position of secretary of the California Medical Association and editor of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. After two years he gave up the secretaryship, but continued as editor of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE and contributed largely to the founding and editing of *Better Health*. He was for six years leader of the hospital betterment work in California. At the time of his death, and for two years prior thereto, he was president of the Santa Cruz County Medical Society.

Editorial work was congenial to him. He served for years as editor of the *Bulletin of the Manila Medical Society* and as associate editor of the *Philippine Journal of Science*. In 1900, with R. P. Strong, he did early work on bacillary dysentery. His lengthiest publication was his report on infant mortality of the tropics. He wrote several exten-

sive monographs, besides scores of special articles on amebiasis, trypanosomiasis and streptothricosis, and was awarded a medal at the Bombay International Congress of Tropical Medicine. These names, amebiasis and trypanosomiasis, were coined by Doctor Musgrave. He also wrote extensively on fluke infections, malaria, tropical neuritis, and hundreds of other essays and addresses, published in both scientific and popular magazines. He was a frequent contributor to the editorial columns of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

As chairman of the committee of arrangements for the San Francisco session he displayed marked executive ability and published *Medical California*, a souvenir number of the meeting. In 1923-24 he served as vice-president of the American Medical Association.

For many years Doctor Musgrave was recognized as a leader in the medical world. His views on the social, civil, and economic relations of physicians to the public had much to do in shaping and directing the policies of organized medicine. While an ardent advocate of free medical attention to the indigent sick, he pointed to the danger of indiscriminate charity and the consequent pauperization of the American public by opposing with all the might of his facile pen every tendency toward socialized medicine.

Doctor Musgrave did more than any other man to place the medical profession of California in the forefront of medical associations throughout the country. He brought our state journal to such a high plane of quality that it bows to no other similar medical publication in America. It is a monument to the man who did so much to give it both form and substance. His ideals were in keeping with the best traditions of our calling, and no sacrifice was too great for him to make in order to maintain a high standard of excellence in whatever work he undertook. As a leader of men he pointed the way by directing our mental activities toward the investigation of vital problems; in solving which he himself in his own researches demonstrated beautifully the finest use of the scientific method. His contributions to the betterment of the profession remain an inspiration to his colleagues and give an additional value and zest to life.

Few men, even in the medical profession, though intimately acquainted with Doctor Musgrave, knew of his great versatility and accomplishments in the field of literature and scientific research. His modesty in reference to what he himself had done has become apparent since his death, as indicated by a careful perusal of his bibliography. Naturally what Doctor Musgrave has done for the good of humanity will be compared with the work of others in the profession who have passed to the Great Beyond. Such a comparison will be most favorable to Doctor Musgrave's record of achievements and will place his name in the forefront of those who have labored for the advancement of science in its service to mankind.

"The noonday never knows
What names immortal are;
'Tis night alone that shows
How star surpasseth star."

"PAPA SPANK"

Physicians are regulated, instructed, overruled, criticized; often punished by regulations, initiated and enforced by nonmedical departments, boards, bureaus, directors of this and that agency of government to an extent rarely appreciated. The maximum legal dosage of several important medicines is fixed for them by persons who are innocent of even a smattering of knowledge of the requirements. From the scores of nonmedical government agencies there flows a constant stream of criticism of doctors, paid for at government expense. The gist of much of this tax-paid propaganda is to the effect that "the average doctor" is incompetent or dishonest, largely because he resents having his judgment as to what is best for his patients overruled by nonmedical bureaucrats and also because he usually fails to "cooperate" with these bureaus by reporting the most intimate frailties and misfortunes of his patients so that they may be made matters of government record.

This net of control over doctors by those who make and enforce laws is being drawn tighter and tighter. It has now reached a point where no physician can practice his profession honestly, intelligently, and protect the interests of his patients without very frequent violations of law and probably daily violations of the orders and instructions of bureaucrats that have the force of law.

Still "regulation," restriction, and thou-shall-not edicts keep pouring out from government printing presses.

A new one, and particularly bold, is shown in the following quotation (*italics ours*) from the last annual report of the Industrial Accident Commission of California:

"For many years it has been the unchanging opinion of the medical profession that hernias are not of traumatic origin in the sense that they are rarely the result of a single strain or injury but, rather, are caused by the successive strains to which the physical body is subjected in the ordinary course of living. Within the last *two years* the Commission, *with its experience acquired in this field*, reached the conclusion that the *medical profession was not entirely correct* in its position on this question."

Contrast this conclusion, arrived at by a commission of three laymen who know nothing about medicine or hernia, but which nevertheless sets medical judgment aside, with the following dignified medical statement by Morton R. Gibbons, Medical Director of the Commission (but not a member) published in the same annual report:

"In the case of hernia it must be assumed that (1) a predisposition existed, or (2) a hernia, known or unknown to the workman existed, or (3) some extremely serious injury or strain intervened to produce the disability. In the latter instance it is easy to decide. In the first instance the character and degree of injury must govern the decision. The claimant should generally be compensated in proportion to the severity of the cause.

"In the second instance we must decide whether or not an aggravation has been caused by industrial strain. If aggravation has occurred from industrial strain by injury, then the degree of strain or injury will govern the extent of compensation."

However, it is not the commission's ruling that makes their diagnosis humorous, silly or plain stupid, but it is the fact that a bureau of three laymen conclude "from their experience" that the medical pro-